

# WASHINGTON

"Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable."

TUESDAY, AUGUST 1, 1851.

## INDIVISIBILITY OF THE UNION.

In another column will be found a correspondence between Mr. WEBSTER and a citizen of North Carolina (whose letter is in our hands) on the question of the right of any State, at its mere will and pleasure, to withdraw from the Union.

It was the language of WASHINGTON, that the Union "constitutes us one Government." Such were the doctrine and the language of all the Fathers of the Republic. The Government was twenty years old before the notion was publicly avowed, and then with general reprobation, of the right of a State to withdraw from the Union.

The Letter of Mr. WEBSTER to his North Carolina correspondent reminds us that we have seen the name of the late NATHANIEL MAISON, of North Carolina, cited as favoring the idea of the right of any State to break up the Union. He could have held no such opinion. We have heard him, on different occasions, express, in language as strong as ever flowed from the lips of man, opinions directly the reverse of this.

One of these occasions our memory enables us directly to refer to. It was that of a Debate in the House of Representatives in March, 1812, on the occasion of the reception and disposition of a Message from the President of the United States, transmitting to that body a series of papers (the commission and correspondence of John Henry, a British agent) proving, in the language of Mr. MAISON, that, at that recent period, whilst the two countries were still at peace, "a secret agent of the British Government was employed in certain States in fomenting disaffection to the constituted authorities of the nation, and in intrigues with the disaffected for the purpose of bringing about resistance to the laws, and eventually, in concert with a British force, of destroying the Union, and forming the Eastern part thereof into a political connexion with Great Britain." This exposition, as may well be conceived, produced a great excitement, in and out of Congress. No one believed the persons in New England, with whom Henry held communication, had any thought of "secession" from the Union, though some of their public writers had made violent obstructions of what they would do. Yet, from a feeling that this disclosure reflected upon them in some degree, some of the old Federal party in Congress resented it, whilst others affected to ridicule the whole matter; upon which demonstrations of feeling Mr. WEBSTER—*we* then thought him old—from down East, quoted, against those who made them, the old saying among gunners, that "you may know the wounded pigeons by their fluttering." Towards the close of this Debate, the veteran patriot from North Carolina took part in it, in a speech reported in the National Intelligencer of March 12, 1812, from which we quote so much as shows what was his opinion of the inviolability of the Union, and of the conduct of those who should conspire to dissolve it.

"Mr. MAISON said this was one of those debates which sometimes arise in the House, in which all were on one side of the question. Nothing can be more true than that these papers do prove that Great Britain has not yet ceased her attempts to disturb the peace of this nation. In this case, a man who had been in the service of this Government, preferring the British, was whilst in Canada, engaged by Gov. CRAIG to go into a part of this country to endeavor to procure a division of the Union. Mr. M. said he had four years ago stated that both Great Britain and France had agents in this country. Had they not had them in other countries? They had; and he cited Holland as a particular instance.

"The Constitution (said Mr. M.) is founded on the Union of these States; and if I may be allowed to use a word once fashionable on the INDIVISIBILITY OF THE EMPIRE. And what was the object of Great Britain? For what did she employ this man? To separate the Union; to destroy the Constitution, the greatest work of the greatest men this country has produced. Sir, I was almost struck with horror, when such documents were reading, to see that any man could laugh at them. They expose an attempt, not to stab an individual, but to stab a nation."

"I understood enough of the papers, as read, to know that [he] was an agent of the British Government, sent here to sow division, and that was enough for me. So long as we are governed by interest, mutual wants, or by common sense, so long shall we continue united. We are placed in such a situation that we ought to love each other, and we always should; did not our mad passions sometimes run away with us. One part of the nation delights in using the sea; another in agriculture; we supply each other's wants; we ought never to dream of separation."

DANIEL M. HENRY, Esq., has been nominated as the Whig candidate for Congress from the sixth Congressional district of Maryland. The district is Whig, and his election we regard as certain. The Cambridge Chronicle says that he will prove worthy of the high trust and confidence reposed in him by the nominating Convention.

## THE COAST SURVEY.

Mr. T. SHEPARD HOBANS, of the Lawrence Scientific School, Cambridge, will leave Boston in the steamer of next Wednesday for Liverpool, in charge of chronometers for the use of the Coast Survey. This expedition is under the direction and instructions of Professor BORD, of the Cambridge Observatory.

Mr. J. SMITH HOBANS, Jr., has received an appointment under the Coast Survey Department, and is stationed near Portland, Maine.

These young men are among the earliest graduates of the Lawrence Scientific School of Harvard University. It will be recollected that Mr. ABRAHAM LAWRENCE made a donation of fifty thousand dollars (with assurance of further aid) for the establishment of the Scientific School at Cambridge. In compliance to Mr. LAWRENCE, this new branch of Harvard University has been named after him, and three professorships are now established upon a liberal footing—viz. Engineering, under Professor CUTLER; Chemistry, under Professor HOBANS; and Zoology, under Professor AGASSIZ.

The Lawrence Scientific School is to the civilian what the West Point Academy is to the cadet—a school for practical science. It is now in able hands, and bids fair to accomplish vast benefits for the rising generation. There are already numbers of young men attached to it, from Kentucky, Ohio, and other Western States, as well as from New England and the Middle States.

NEW CLERKS.—A large addition was yesterday made to the clerical force in the Pension Office. Some twenty-seven new clerks, as we learn, received appointments, and we presume will proceed to the work immediately.

## CUBAN "EXILES" IN NEW YORK.

With a courtesy entirely gratuitous, since no such civility has been shown by the authors of it to this paper, we transfer to our columns the following from the New York Journal of Commerce:

### THE CUBANS AND THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

To the Editor of the Journal of Commerce: Sir: An article published in the "National Intelligencer" of the 31st ultimo does great injustice to a cause and to friends that are dear to us. The Intelligencer being the reputed organ of the National Executive, its article possesses an importance which induces us to give an emphatic denial to all its assumptions, influences, and insinuations. We also indignantly deny that we have imposed upon, or sought to impose upon, the press and people of this country, by manufactured and exaggerated statements, or by false and forged documents. All statements and publications given by us to the press of this city have emanated from the source indicated in them—our friends in Cuba—and they are neither "men of straw," nor men capable of fabricating falsehoods.

On behalf of the Cuban exiles in New York.  
OCTAVIANO DUARTE, Departamento Oriental.  
FRANCISCO SPINOSA, Departamento Central.  
MIGUEL T. TOLON, Departamento Occidental.  
NEW YORK, AUGUST 1, 1851.

Upon this publication we shall make few remarks; and these would not be made if either the "Cubans" in New York, or the press which publishes their imputations upon the National Intelligencer, had done common justice to that journal.

In the first place, the Administration is not accountable, and must not be held responsible, for any publication made in the National Intelligencer which does not clearly import to be made by its authority. The Administration had no agency of any kind in the article to which the note of "the Cubans" refers.

Secondly, the article to which their note alludes contained no "assumptions, influences, or insinuations" against real Cubans, whether residents in the island or "exiles" from it. The rights of Cuban exiles resident among us, so long as they respect the hospitality and the laws of the United States, the National Intelligencer would be the last to disturb or to question. Neither do we question their right individually to return to Cuba from the United States without let or hindrance. All that is expected from them by the friends of law and good government in this country is, that they shall not, in the teeth of the statutes of the United States, engage in fitting out from the ports or shores of the United States military or naval expeditions against a country with which the United States is in peace and amity.

Thirdly, So far from imputing to Cubans, whether in Cuba or in New York, the fabrication of documents for the purpose of producing false impressions upon the People of this country, the National Intelligencer distinctly showed, by circumstantial evidence, that the pretended "Declaration of Independence" was of Anglo-Saxon origin and manufacture, and that the Cubans at home had no hand in its production.

Fourthly, Nor has the National Intelligencer hitherto charged, at any time, that the Cubans in New York had given "statements and publications to the press" of that city in any deceptive form. It has not even denied that the Proclamation, as copied into the papers of the United States, may have been printed upon a press in the fastnesses of Cuba. But we still maintain that the Declaration is not an emanation from any city or province of Cuba, or the Representative of any such; but, so far as it purports to be so, is a counterfeit and an imposition.

In further and conclusive proof of this position, we offer the following statement of facts from the New York Commercial Advertiser of Saturday last:

"The Savannah News publishes a 'free translation' of a Proclamation of the 'Cuban Patriots,' dated July 3, very different from that supplied to the press in this city. In this document, dated prior to the one prepared for New York papers, a much more warlike tone is adopted, and the '800 victims of Puerto Principe,' who, as a 'heroic example, have spilled their blood,' are spoken of in the past tense. The accounts published here gave no account of any rising before the 4th of July, or any fighting before the 5th. The two branches, North and South, of the Cuban junta in this country cannot have sufficiently compared notes before publication."

## THE WHIGS OF NEW YORK.

Committees of Conference, representing the two sections of the Whigs of New York, have been in consultation at Albany for several days past, with a view to reconcile the differences which separated them at the last election in that State, and agree upon a common platform for the ensuing Fall campaign. A Telegraphic despatch from Albany says that their conferences have resulted favorably, and that they have determined upon a call for a General Whig State Convention, "embodying a complete declaration of Whig principles and an endorsement of the course of the present Administration." The Convention is to meet at Syracuse on the 17th of September.

A recent report from General HARNEY, commanding on the Texan frontier, communicates intelligence of the rescue of seventeen Mexican captives from the hands of the Comanche and Lipan Indians, and their delivery to the Mexican authorities at Guerrero, Mexico, agreeably to the 11th article of the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. Sixteen of the prisoners were boys, and all were children collected in the predatory excursions of those Indians from different parts of the Northeastern Provinces of Mexico; but, although many of them had been from five to seven years in captivity, the United States officers were enabled to gather such particulars respecting their parentage and places of birth as will probably secure the return of them all to their families.

## BOUNTY LAND STATISTICS.

Reports of service were made in the Third Auditor's Office during the month of July 6,745 claims for bounty lands under the old Indian wars and the war of 1812 with Great Britain.

In the Pension Office 32,638 warrants were issued, under the act of September 28, 1850, up to the 1st of August, 1851, inclusive.

DEATH OF MR. McEVENE.—A letter from Paris communicates intelligence of the sudden death of BAKER McEVENE, Esq., President of the New York Insurance Company, and a most estimable citizen. The cause of Mr. McEVENE's death was a stroke of apoplexy. He was walking in the street, in company with Mr. DUNDY SHELLEY, when attacked, and fell to the ground unconscious, from which condition he did not recover during the few hours which intervened between the stroke and his decease. Mr. McEVENE was fifty-two years of age. He succeeded his father, Chas. McEVENE, Esq., as President of the New York Insurance Company in 1838, and had held the office uninterruptedly for thirteen years.

## THE CUBAN "DECLARATION."

We have already spoken of two versions of the "Declaration of Independence" said to have been issued at Puerto Principe, in the island of Cuba. We have now before us a third, having no relation whatever to the other two. To enable our readers to compare them, we copy the few first lines of each of the two of which we have copies:

**The First.**  
TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE ISLAND OF CUBA.  
Manifest and Proclamation of their Independence by the Liberating Society of Puerto Principe. (La Sociedad Liberadora de P. P.)

JULY 4, 1851.  
Human reason revolts against the idea that the social and political condition of a people can be indefinitely prolonged in which man, stripped of all rights and guarantees, with no security of person or property, no enjoyment of the present, no hope in the future, lives only by the will and under the conditions imposed by the pleasure of his tyrants; where a vile calumny, a prisoner's denunciation, a despot's suspicion, a word caught up by surprise to the sanctuary of home, or from the violated privacy of a letter, furnishes ample ground for tearing a man from his hearth and casting him forth to die of destitution and despair in a foreign soil; if he cannot be subjected to the insolent forms of a barbarous and arbitrary tribunal, where his persecutors are themselves his judges, who condemn him, and where, instead of proving his offense, he is required to prove his innocence.

A situation so violent as this Cuba has now been for many years enduring; and, far from any promise of remedy appearing, every day finds that the policy of the mother country and the ferocity of her rulers will grant neither truce nor rest till the island is reduced to the condition of an immense prison, where every Cuban will be watched by a guard, and will have to pay guard for watching him, &c.  
[Signed by three persons.]

**The Second.**  
The Washington Intelligencer, after an elaborate history of the claims of Dr. Gardiner on Mexico, comes to the conclusion that it was a perfectly valid claim. It says: "The whole proceedings of Dr. Gardiner, and all the collateral circumstances connected with this claim, putting aside the overwhelming documentary evidence in its favor, tend irresistibly to establish its genuineness, both as to its authenticity and its amount."—New York Evening Post, Monday.

This is altogether a mistake. The "Post" attributes to the National Intelligencer sentiments not uttered by its Editors. We expressed no opinion, one way or the other, upon the validity of the claim. All that we did say on that point, in the National Intelligencer of the 2d instant, was as follows:

"We have ourselves not had the opportunity to verify the facts by personal examination; but, from the character of our informant, have no doubt of his entire conviction of the truth of all the points which he has taken the trouble to collate."

VOLUNTEERS FOR CUBA.—In cautioning its readers against placing reliance in a Telegraphic despatch from New Orleans, purporting to communicate news from Cincinnati, the New York Express says:

"We do not think that part of the despatch about 'large bodies of young men waiting at Cincinnati to join the insurgents' was a telegraphic news from New Orleans. We have plenty of these at home, always 'waiting an opportunity' for a Cuba hunt, or any other enterprise that offers an opportunity for exercising the genius they have in that direction."

GEN. HOUSSON and the Territorial Claims of Texas.—In the course of a speech made by Gen. HOUSSON, on a late visit to Galveston, where he was cordially received and welcomed, he took occasion to refer to that measure of the Compromise which adjusted the disputed boundaries between Texas and New Mexico, and appropriated to the former a large sum of money. A sketch of Gen. HOUSSON's speech, as given in the Galveston Journal, says:

"He alluded to the sale of the Santa Fe territory, and thought if there was any thing wrong in the trade, it was that Texas had got a little more than the country was worth; but, as he acted only in the capacity of agent of the people, that responsibility must rest on their consciences. Texas, he said, had a claim to Santa Fe, and that the Government of Texas, from 1838 to 1841, had weakened that claim by offering, in substance, to treat with New Mexico as a foreign Power."

It is not only true that the Government of Texas had weakened the claim in question by offering in substance to treat with New Mexico as a foreign Power, but it is also true that the Government of the United States had made a similar recognition. The law of drawbacks, passed during Mr. POLK's administration and after the annexation of Texas, recognized Santa Fe as a place beyond the limits of the United States and as the possession of a foreign Power. There were indeed contradictory acts of legislation by Congress on this subject, and the whole matter became so complicated that a general measure of compromise, without going into particular details, was deemed advisable under the circumstances. The opinion, however, expressed by Gen. HOUSSON, in reference to the claim of Texas, entertained as it is very generally by dispassionate men North and South, comes opportunely enough at this time to rebuke the extravagant language of the Secessionists, who pretend that Texas was wronged in that transaction, and that the rights of the South were consequently impaired.—Balt. American.

AMERICAN CLAIMS ON PORTUGAL.—The Paris correspondent of the London Globe says:

"You are aware that the dispute between the United States and Portugal, in which the former claimed a pecuniary indemnity for injuries inflicted on American subjects, was referred to the arbitration of the President of the French Republic. Mr. Fillmore having refused to follow up the menace made by General Taylor, the President has given his award, and yesterday M. Baroche, the son of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, left Paris to communicate the award, which is, I am assured, greatly in favor of Portugal."

Contrary to this, the Paris correspondent of the London Morning Chronicle says that, so far from an award having been made, the question has not yet been opened; and, if he is well informed, the papers connected with the case have not yet reached Paris.

Nineteen years ago, as we passed through Western and Middle Virginia, they were speculating on the probable advantage of introducing sheep banding. What was then probability is now certainty. A few Northern wool-growers, according to the Richmond Whig, have settled in the range of counties immediately under the Blue Ridge, extending from the Potomac to the frontier of North Carolina, consisting of Fauquier, Orange, Albemarle, Henry, and Patrick. The sheep are healthy, the grasses which sustain them grow luxuriantly, and wools are scarce. In some of these counties uncultivated land is to be had for fifty cents an acre.

To protect the sheep from dogs, who are more dangerous than wolves, the method of putting a bell on one in ten of the flock has been adopted. Dogs that kill sheep do it at night and in silence, but the noise of the bells terrifies and drives them off.—New York Post.

## UNITED STATES MINT.

The coinage at the Mint in Philadelphia during the month of July amounted to \$3,282,992. The gold bullion deposited for coinage during the same time amounted to \$3,139,000, of which \$3,053,000 was from California. There was also deposited for coinage, in silver, \$19,800. The subjoined statement shows the number of pieces coined:

GOLD.	
118,598 double eagles.....	\$2,363,960 00
18,285 eagles.....	182,850 00
20,304 half eagles.....	101,520 00
145,732 quarter eagles.....	356,830 00
235,335 gold dollars.....	235,335 00
534,854 pieces.....	\$3,250,495 00
SILVER.	
10,000 half dollars.....	5,000 00
47,000 dimes.....	4,700 00
80,000 half dimes.....	4,000 00
719,400 three cent pieces.....	21,582 00
1,391,254 pieces.....	\$3,275,777 00
COPPER.	
77,072 cents.....	\$7,710 72
100,878 half cents.....	504 39
2,263,204 pieces.....	\$3,282,992 11

It is a bad omen of respect for the law, if not of public virtue, (says the Charleston "News") when mass meetings are held in our principal cities to sympathize with foreign adventurers who make no secret of their plans for invading and revolutionizing countries with which the United States are at peace. But the offense is aggravated, if it admits of aggravation, when the adventurers, emboldened by this sympathy, receive encouragement in reading the very Declaration of Independence by which they mean to liberate those countries from the authority that rules them, and which we have acknowledged in our treaties with them. We received an account yesterday of a mass meeting in New Orleans which was addressed by Gen. LOPEZ, and at which he read the Cuban Declaration of Independence. This adventurer, haranguing in our midst to induce our citizens to violate their obligations to the laws of their country, by lending their aid in men or money to revolutionize a country with which we have pacific relations, commits that very moral offense by which Thompson and other meddlers have drawn down the indignation of our citizens. The only difference is, that Thompson has made as the theatre of his labors the country itself where he desired to produce disaffection to law. LOPEZ has a wider plan. His scheme embraces the overthrow of Government, and all the worst hazards of revolution. He enters a country whose general sympathy for liberty is as so eager to assist in giving them liberty are themselves the worst sort of tyrants; they would embark in the enterprise for the profit of it—for plunder. They are in truth mere pirates, and they should be kept down with the strong hand. The less of such aid the Cubans receive the better it will be for them. In keeping these people at home our Government is not only sustaining its own honor, but rendering the people of Cuba essential service.—Boston Journal.

There is great reason to believe that the Intelligencer is nearly, if not quite, correct in its estimate of the reported revolution in Cuba. All republicans would rejoice to see any enlightened and judicious movement in that oppressed island to throw off the yoke of Spain and establish free institutions. But we confess that we have no sympathy with piratical expeditions set on foot here to wrest Cuba from its present rulers, whether commenced, as on a former occasion, by a ridiculous attempt at invasion, or as now by the manufacture of startling news and magniloquent Declarations of Independence. Every day dissipates more and more the smoke of the late wonderful intelligence by the Isabel.—Rochester American.

The prediction we ventured a few days ago is having an earlier verification than we thought it would at the time. The present "insurrection" (in the island of Cuba) is about as great a failure as the Lopez foray, so far as it goes to help along the cause of eventual independence. The means to accomplish the end have been miserably inadequate, and the only effect of the ill-timed demonstration at Principe, it is easy to see, will be to make the Spanish Government more watchful, more jealous, stronger, and ten times more tyrannical than it was before. There can be no diversity of opinion on that point. A telegraphic despatch, dated New Orleans, July 29th, says: "Senor Carto, a Spaniard, sailed in the steamship Falcon yesterday for Havana, to offer the services of a thousand Spaniards to aid the Captain-General in suppressing the disturbances on the island." This, if true, seems to indicate that even in the United States there is not so much unanimity among Spaniards for a revolution in Cuba as we are often told there is.—New York Express.

A correspondent of the New Orleans Bulletin, writing from Havana, giving the recent reports, says that if the sentiments of the city of Havana were taken as the criterion, a very great majority of the people would be opposed to revolution. A revolution of any kind, more especially an internal one, would involve the island in the worst of horrors—those of civil war—aggravated as they would be here by the vast commercial and agricultural interests at stake. They point to the general prosperity of the island, evinced by its rapid progress, having doubled, or more, its exports within twenty years, and allege that, if the oppressions of Spain were so grinding as they are represented to be, would not things present a different aspect? They refer also to South America, where disappointed ambition, family jealousy, angered spirit, or wounded feeling of a disappointed candidate, are causes of long and protracted wars, keeping the country in continual disturbance. The descendants of the Spaniards, he conceives, cannot enjoy a republican form of Government like an American.

THE POST OFFICE at Louisville, Kentucky, (as we are informed through the Magnetic Telegraph,) took fire on Saturday morning in the "distributing room," and, though the building was saved, much of its contents were consumed.

Gov. BRIGGS ON BACHELORS.—Ex-Governor BRIGGS delivered an address on Thursday, before the New York State Normal School at Albany, which is described as being "full of humor, anecdote, happy illustrations, and a sound argument in favor of free education. It was mainly an unwritten and unprepared effort, but well stored with good sense and moral instruction." Towards the close he gave the "old bachelors" a scolding, particularly that class of them who grumble at being taxed for educating other people's children.

RISK OF WATER.—The Chicago Journal of Saturday week says: "LAKE MICHIGAN was playing its antics again all day yesterday, the water rising from two to four feet every half hour or so, and as suddenly receding. At dusk, while the lake was as smooth as a mirror, without wind or any apparent cause, the water rose to the height of four feet within an hour. What has caused this great commotion with old Michigan is a mystery. It is certainly very unaccountable."

## NOTICE OF A WHIG STATE CONVENTION.

### The Whigs of New York.

Believing that an expression of the views and principles of the Whigs of this State, as they are understood by us, in relation particularly to questions which now agitate the country, should be made, in order to induce an intelligent, honest, and cordial co-operation among ourselves and with the Whigs of the other States of the Union, the State Committees, appointed at the respective Conventions held in 1850 at Syracuse and at Utica, and the Committee appointed by the Whigs of the Legislature at its recent session, have agreed upon the following, as presenting what they believe to be the sentiments of the great body of the Whigs of the State of New York:

An economical administration of the Government: The strict accountability of public officers, and their rigid adherence to the limitations of power prescribed by the Constitution and the laws; an honest and faithful performance of all obligations made with foreign nations, with a scrupulous regard for their rights, and a firm and steady defence of our own:

The improvement of the important rivers and harbors of the country, so as to render them navigable and accessible, by prudent and systematic appropriations, founded upon examinations made by competent and disinterested public officers:

Such a discrimination in the duties necessarily laid upon imports for the support of Government as shall secure to the industry of our countrymen a just remuneration, and shall stimulate mechanical and manufacturing enterprise, and thus provide a home consumption for the products of agriculture, which may control and counteract the untended demand of foreign markets, and as shall promote that healthy interchange among ourselves of the fruits of our own skill and labor which is so well calculated to cement our Union and maintain the spirit of national independence:

That the Whigs of the State, as a body, are inflexibly opposed to the subjection of any territory of the United States now free to laws imposing involuntary servitude, except as punishment for crime, and they rejoice that no proposition to that effect is now pending or is likely to be presented; while, at the same time, they unqualifiedly acknowledge the right of every sovereign State to regulate its own municipal institutions in such manner as its people may deem most conducive to their safety and happiness, without interference, directly or indirectly, by citizens of other States, or subjects of other countries:

That the Whigs of this State will abide by the Constitution of the United States in all its parts, and that they will receive its true meaning and construction from the judicial tribunals it has created for that purpose, and will always sustain and defend such decisions as the law of the land until they are reversed by the same tribunals:

That laws of Congress and of the State Legislatures, pronounced constitutional by the judicial tribunals, must be enforced and implicitly obeyed; and that while this is cheerfully recognized as the duty of all as subjects of the laws, yet that the right of citizens, as voters, is equally undeniable to discuss, with a full and mutual regard for the rights and interests of all parts of the Confederacy, (which is as necessary now to maintain as it was indispensable to achieve the blessed Union of these States,) the expediency of such laws and the propriety of any of their provisions, and to seek, by constitutional means, their repeal or modification:

That all who are animated by a sincere desire to preserve the Union unimpaired, and the free institutions which it sustains and guarantees, by which alone individual security and national peace and prosperity can be perpetuated, must condemn all attempts to resist, defeat, or render ineffectual any laws passed by constitutional majorities of legislative bodies in either the Federal or State Governments, and that the Whigs of New York will ever be found prompt to render a patriotic acquiescence in all such laws:

That the National Administration is entitled to the confidence and support of the Whigs of New York for the eminent ability and patriotism which have characterized its measures; for its successful management of our foreign affairs; the generous sympathy it has exhibited towards an oppressed people struggling for freedom; the force and dignity with which it has maintained the right to indulge such sympathy, and with which it has rebuked the threats of an imperious Government to violate the immunities of an accredited public agent; and the determination it has evinced to repress and defeat all movements tending to impair the public faith, and all unlawful enterprises calculated to disturb the public peace and provoke civil war, or to sever or weaken the relations of any State with the Union:

That the Whig Administration of this State has fully justified the confidence in its capacity, intelligence, and integrity which called it into being; that the public interests in the various departments of Education, Finance, and Jurisprudence, and in the extension of the means of intercourse and of cheap transportation, have been vigorously and prudently sustained and promoted; that Constitutional Government, by legal majorities, has been vindicated, and the general prosperity of the State has been sedulously and successfully maintained; and by employing the means which previous expenditures, guided by enlightened foresight, had placed within our reach, to consummate the great work of the age, has presented a vivid contrast to the narrow, unjust, and wasteful policy of those who would scatter those means by such an impotent application of them as would postpone to a very distant posterity, if not indefinitely, the enjoyment of an inestimable heritage of wealth and prosperity:

That, for the purpose of sustaining these views and principles in the election of State Officers, and entertaining them at the ensuing general election, the Committees above mentioned recommend that a Convention, consisting of one delegate from each assembly district of the State, be held at Syracuse, on the 17th day of September next, at 12 o'clock at noon.

GEO. GEDDES,  
GEO. R. BABCOCK,  
JAS. M. COOK,  
HOWARD C. CADY,  
CHAS. R. SWORDS,  
HAMILTON HARRIS,  
Committee of the Legislature.

John L. Schoolcraft, Samuel Stevens, James Kidd, Allen Munroe, Nathan G. King, B. R. Spelman, Robert H. Pruyn, H. Z. Heyner, Dennis Bowen, Simon Draper, W. T. Willard, James T. M. Blakeley, David Graham, Geo. M. Sayles, Thos. H. Bond, Franklin Townsend, T. Van Vechter, Jr., Frederick Hollister, Arthur H. Root, Le Grand B. Cannon, John K. Porter,  
State Central Committee.

THE CORPORATIONS OF WASHINGTON, GEORGETOWN, AND ALEXANDRIA have now before them a proposition from the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company, the object of which is to furnish the Canal with means sufficient to raise water during the drier months of the year from the Potomac river into the canal above Dam No. 6. Seventy-five thousand dollars is the sum wanted, which is thought sufficient to establish four stationary steam engines and accompanying machinery for the required object. The steam engines are at these points to work pumps raising the water from the lower to the higher level. No other means than this seems to the engineers employed in the business to be likely to keep the canal always in good navigable order. And this is deemed quite competent to effect that important end. What the respective Councils will do with the proposition remains to be seen. In Georgetown the Board of Aldermen and Board of Common Council met this evening, to consider the report of their joint committee on the subject.

CROSSING THE ATLANTIC IN A SMALL BOAT.—On board the ship Devonshire, Capt. HOVY, which sailed from Portsmouth for New York on the second of July, the small-pox made its appearance on the first day out. One person only was attacked. The patient was placed in the sternboat, hanging at the davits, entirely clear from the ship; a small house was built over it with tarpaulins and stakes, in which he was comfortably sheltered, and here he was nursed and attended until he was entirely cured. The ship arrived at New York on Saturday; the passenger, who is now perfectly well, having never left the boat in the whole course of the voyage. None of the other passengers were attacked by the small-pox, the precaution taken by the captain having proved perfectly successful.

## UNITED STATES REVENUE CUTTERS.

The information contained in the following Letter, which we find in the Boston Courier, may be useful to readers in the seaports:

U. S. REVENUE CUTTER HAMILTON, AUGUST 2, 1851.

The Editors of the Boston press and its vicinity will confer a favor by giving the following an insertion in their respective papers. The United States cutter Hamilton, having completed her repairs, has returned to her usual duties on this station. Among the various duties assigned to revenue cutters, none afford us so much real pleasure as that of rendering assistance to disabled vessels and shipwrecked seamen in distress. To this end I solicit the earliest possible information from the insurance offices, and all other sources of information.

And whereas I am frequently importuned to receive my acquaintances and other persons on board the "Hamilton," to make sailing excursions or parties of pleasure, I feel myself called on to publish the following General Order from the honorable Secretary of the Treasury, dated July 26, 1849: "The commanding officers of cutters shall in no case take passengers on board, except officers of the customs, when on duty, or other persons in the service of the United States, and the latter only by the special direction of the Secretary of the Treasury or the Collector of the Port."

Every aid, however, in the power of the officers of the cutter should be afforded to persons at sea in distress, when on duty, or other persons in the service of the United States, and the latter only by the special direction of the Secretary of the Treasury or the Collector of the Port.

Their aid may in like manner be extended to the preservation of property found on board of wrecked vessels, and to secure the cargoes for the benefit of their owners."

In conclusion, I would observe that it will always afford me pleasure to see any of our citizens on board the Hamilton when in port, but no sailing excursions are permissible without an order from the honorable Secretary or the Collector of the Port. Very respectfully, &c.

EZEKIEL JONES, Captain.

## LIBERTY OF CONSCIENCE VINDICATED.

A Court Martial was recently held at Fort Columbus, (New York,) for the trial of a soldier who is a Roman Catholic. The charge preferred against him was that he refused to attend a Protestant place of worship. His name was James Duggan, and for this crime he was sentenced to forfeit to the United States five dollars a month of his pay for six months, to spend two months in solitary confinement and on bread and water, the other months at hard labor, with ball and chain to his leg.

This sentence, which was in part approved by Gen. Wool, came up for revision before the Secretary of War, the Hon. C. M. CORNELL, and was by him set aside, as will be seen by the following:

War Department, Washington, July 15, 1851. Sir: Complaints have been made to this Department that a soldier at Fort Columbus, who is, or was, a Roman Catholic, was ordered to attend a Protestant church, and on his refusal to obey the order he was punished for disobedience of orders. It is doubtful how far an officer has the right to compel officers and men under his command to attend divine service; it is evident, however, that no one ought to be compelled to attend a church of any other persuasion than that to which he belongs.

Every means of persuasion should be employed to induce soldiers to attend some church, but they should be permitted to select the one they prefer. And when they profess to have conscientious scruples about attending any particular church, all compulsory measures violate the rights of conscience, and should be avoided.